

What are some other applications of The Peace Rug?

o It marks a special "do not disturb" place, when someone needs to be quiet, think, or plan!

5 o It is also a designated place for family meetings and other times of sharing ideas. NOTE: It may be necessary to first to assist small children until they get more familiar with the process. On the other hand, it is sometimes a small child who will encourage adults who are in conflict to go to The Peace Rug !

10 We know you will have many memorable successes at The Peace Rug. Choosing to come together and to put away conflicts is to be commended. Therefore, we invite you to please share your success stories with us at our website so that we may share in your peace.

15 While this invention has been described in conjunction with specific embodiments thereof, it is evident that many alternative modifications and variations will be apparent to those skilled in the art. Accordingly, the preferred embodiments of the invention as set forth herein are intended to be illustrative, not limiting. Various changes may be made without departing from the true spirit and scope of the invention as defined in the following claims.

CLAIMS:

1. A method for enabling conflict resolution among two or more parties, comprising:

2 providing a script to be spoken by at least one of the two or more
3 parties, the script including a plurality of phrases, each phrase corresponding
4 to the beginning of a respective statement;
5

6 positioning a portable object at a location for the two or more parties to
7 physically position themselves with respect to the portable object for engaging
8 in a discussion;

9 extending an invitation by a first party to at least one second party for
10 physically positioning themselves at said location in close proximity to the
11 positioned portable object;

12 initiating a discussion corresponding to the script by the first party at
13 said location, and engaging the second party in a discourse that relates to the
14 conflict from the perspective of the first party; and

15 continuing the discussion according to the script, with each of the
16 remaining parties speaking in sequence each of the plurality of phrases
17 together with respective additional discourse that relates to the conflict from
18 the perspective of the speaking party, while the parties remain at the location,
19 to encourage respectful and safe behavior.

1 2. The method as set forth in Claim 1, further comprising
2 developing a plan accomplished by mutual encouragement to further discuss
3 the conflict and to explore how the two or more parties could attain improved
4 inter-parties relations.

1 3. The method as set forth in Claim 2, wherein said discussion
2 includes articulating a mutually agreeable plan for achieving said improved
3 inter-party relations.

1 4. The method as set forth in Claim 3, wherein the plurality of
2 statements includes a first statement describing an action taken by one of the
3 parties not the speaker, a second statement describing a feeling on the part of
4 the speaker as to the effect the action had on the speaker at the time the
5 action occurred, and a third statement describing a request on the part of the
6 speaker to the perpetrator of the action in connection with the action.

1 5. The method as set forth in Claim 1, further comprising the step
2 of celebrating the mutually agreeable plan by displaying a symbolic gesture of
3 camaraderie.

1 6. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the plurality of
2 phrases includes a first phrase, "When you...", a second phrase, "I felt...", and
3 a third phrase, "and I need...".

1 7. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the plurality of
2 statements includes a first statement describing an action taken by one of the
3 parties not a speaker, a second statement describing a feeling on the part of
4 the speaker as to the effect the action had on the speaker at the time the
5 action occurred, and a third statement describing a request on the part of the
6 speaker, directed to said one of the parties not the speaker, in connection with
7 the action.

1 8. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the portable object
2 is a rug.

1 9. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the portable object
2 is a sheet.

1 10. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the two or more
2 parties are two or more organizations, each organization being represented
3 by a respective speaker.

1 11. A method for enabling a conflict resolution process to be
2 conducted by two or more parties in mutual conflict who have positioned
3 themselves in proximity to a conflict resolution area, said two or more parties
4 having been pre-instructed as to a script and a set of instructions to be
5 followed in connection with said script, the method comprising:

6 speaking by one of the two or more parties to another of the two or
7 more parties a set of statements according to the script and the set of
8 instructions; and

9 repeating said speaking by each remaining party of the two or more
10 parties until all parties present have spoken while remaining in proximity to the
11 conflict resolution area to encourage respectful and safe behavior.

1 12. The method set forth in Claim 11, further comprising developing
2 a plan accomplished by mutual encouragement of each of the two or more
3 parties to further discuss the conflict and explore how said two or more parties
4 could attain improved inter-parties relations.

1 13. The method set forth in Claim 12, further comprising articulating
2 a mutually agreeable plan for achieving said improved inter-parties relations.

1 14. The method as set forth in Claim 13, further comprising the step
2 of celebrating the mutually agreeable plan by displaying a symbolic gesture of
3 camaraderie.

1 15. The method set forth in Claim 14, wherein the set of statements
2 includes a first statement describing an action taken by one of the parties not
3 a speaker, a second statement describing a feeling on the part of the speaker
4 as to the effect the action had on the speaker at the time the action occurred,
5 and a third statement describing a request on the part of the speaker, directed
6 to said one of the parties not the speaker, in connection with the action.

1 16. A kit for enabling conflict resolution among two or more parties
2 comprising:

3 a portable object, said portable object adapted to be used as a physical
4 and symbolic focus for convening a conflict resolution discussion; and

5 a set of instructions for use in association with said portable object, to
6 encourage participants involved in a mutual conflict to encourage each other
7 to physically convene around the portable object and mutually encourage
8 each other to reach a resolution to the conflict.

1 17. The kit of Claim 16, wherein the set of instructions include a
2 plurality of statements including a first statement describing an action taken by
3 one of the parties not the speaker, a second statement describing a feeling on
4 the part of the speaker as to the effect the action had on the speaker at the
5 time the action occurred, and a third statement describing a request on the

6 part of the speaker to the perpetrator of the action in connection with the
7 action.

1 18. The kit of Claim 17, wherein the first statement begins with the
2 phrase, "When you... ", the second statement begins with the phrase, "I felt...",
3 and the third statement begins with, "And I need...".

1 19. The kit of Claim 18, further comprising a container configured to
2 house the portable object and instructions and to enable the portable object to
3 be carried to various site locations.